

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 3, 1925.

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
U. S. National Museum,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

I take pleasure in acknowledging receipt of 1,639 specimens collected by you at Tortugas, Florida, during June 1925, under the auspices of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. They are entered on the records as a gift in your name.

Very truly yours,

A. Wetmore
Assistant Secretary.

ljs.

GOUCHER COLLEGE
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Tortugas, Florida,
July 4, 1925

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
U. S. National Museum,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Schmitt:

For nearly a week my chief occupation has been copying into my record the material you left with me, and making a sort of preliminary analysis of our results.

These please me greatly. I find, for example, that while they keep well within certain limits the gray snappers capture different species at different stations. Seven out of ten taken on White Shoal illustrate the matter nicely. They contained 14 *Gebias*, of which we found not more than four additional specimens in all the fishes, snappers and grunts together, that we examined. Five out of ten from one of the stations near Bird Key Reef contained 8 *Mithrax sculptus* of which we found only 5 other specimens in 254 other snappers.

I believe my knowledge of the local geography enables me to explain these variations consistently upon the hypothesis that each colony of snappers feeds over a tract extending only a short distance from its schooling place, and chooses generally a particular sort of bottom, which is inhabited in one place by one sand-haunting form, and in another by a different one.

Think I shall have to collect, with Mr. Valentine's assistance, some more material from critical stations, and send it to you for examination after your return from South America. In that way we shall clarify our ideas, and advance our program by as much as we should gain in a considerable time here.

With kind regards to Mrs Schmitt, and best wishes for success in South America, I am,

Cordially yours,
W. H. F. P. P. P.

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON, D.C.

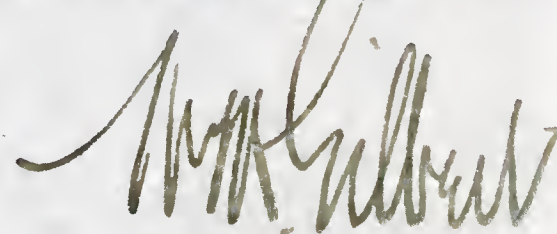
February 21, 1925

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt
U. S. National Museum
Washington, D.C.

My dear Dr. Schmitt

In the absence of President Merriam I am glad to acknowledge the receipt of your notification of yesterday to the effect that you will be able to spend the month of June at Tortugas. A copy of this note will be sent to Dr. Longley, and I assume that you will wish to make definite arrangements for your trip with him.

Sincerely yours



W. M. Gilbert
Administrative Secretary

February 20, 1925.

Dr. W. H. Longley,
Department of Zoology,
Goucher College,
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Dr. Longley,

I have just received the enclosed reply from Mr. Ravenel with Dr. Stejneger's annotations. This clears the atmosphere so that now I can make definite plans for the balance of the year. The credit is all yours for the successful outcome of my petition.

I am taking up the matter of a few dredging nets with the Bureau of Fisheries, and otherwise will be equipped as last year. Shall I borrow a seine too, or will the Laboratory possess a new one? There is one item you got for Dr. Taylor that he shared with me and that was quart size Mason fruit jars, screw caps. Could you have a few, say three or four dozen of these on hand? They are most useful for larger things, and even Dr. Grave used a few.

With my very best to you.

Sincerely,

February 20, 1925.

Dr. J. C. Merriam, President,
Carnegie Institution,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Merriam,

I cannot begin to thank you for your most
encouraging letter of January twenty eighth and I am
happy to be able to say that the Museum authorities
have granted me permission to spend the month of June
at Tortugas.

With my best regards to you.

Sincerely,

1 copy



February 19, 1925.

To Dr. Stejneger:

Replying to Mr. Schmitt's memorandum of February 10, relative to his cooperating with the Carnegie Institution in connection with the work at Tortugas during the month of June, I beg to say that in compliance with your recommendation this detail is approved. I think, however it should be impressed upon Mr. Schmitt that hereafter his entire time should be given to the Bacon Scholarship, except such as may be devoted to his work in the Museum. He, of course, understands that all of his expenses of every character in connection with the Bacon Scholarship must be paid from that fund and not from the Museum appropriation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. A. Ramey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Administrative Assistant
to the Secretary.

Dr. Schmitt
Please note.







February 10, 1925.

Dr. Stejneger,

My last summer's studies at Tortugas stand in very close relation to certain problems under investigation by Dr. Longley. He is at present in administrative charge of the laboratory, and it was at his suggestion that I first made application for the use of the facilities there provided by the Carnegie Institution.

Dr. Longley is anxious to have me return to Tortugas again this year, in order to collaborate with him in investigating the feeding habits of fishes whose other activities he has already studied in considerable detail.

Although hesitating to ask for a month's additional leave beyond that already granted me under the Purdy Bacon award, I have written Dr. Merriam informing him of the facts and requesting that while this application for further leave is pending at the Museum, I be considered as a possible member of the group selected to work at Tortugas this year. Dr. Merriam's response is appended.

In accordance with my present plans under the Bacon Scholarship, I expect to leave for South America the latter part of July, in order to travel as far as Rio with Dr. Metcalf who plans to go at about the same time. This would enable me to spend the month of June at Tortugas, without undue inconvenience. I am confident that I can leave my Museum responsibilities in such shape that this additional brief period would not interfere very much with the successful functioning of the Division, beyond such reports as might be a little delayed, pending my personal attention; the annual report would be prepared in advance.

Respectfully,

Helena May Parrish

Louise

Helena Lovell

~~Helena Lovell~~

GOUCHER COLLEGE
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

February 8, 1925

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
U.S National Museum,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Dr. Schmitt:

I thank you for your letter and enclosures, which I received yesterday.

It is my impression that your proposed letter to Dr. Stejneger is too long, and that all direct attempt to justify your request should be omitted.

My advice would be to say simply that the work you began at Tortugas last summer stands in close relation to mine. That I am ~~an~~ present in administrative charge of the laboratory, and that it was at my suggestion that you first made application for the use of its facilities. This makes me more effective as a petitioner in your behalf.

Add that I am anxious to have you return this summer to collaborate with me in investigating the feeding habits of fishes whose other activities I have already studied. State then that although you hesitate to ask for additional leave, you have written to Dr. Merriam informing him of the facts and requesting that while your application is pending at the Museum you be considered a possible member of the group selected to work at Tortugas this year. Note that his reply is enclosed or appended.

A word about spending time at the Museum in July, and the condition in which you can leave the affairs of the Division is all else that is needed. Leave out details; get it off, and let me know result as soon as possible, so that I may communicate with Dr. Taylor.

Cordially yours, *W. H. Longley*

February 6, 1925.

Dr. W. H. Longley,
Department of Zoology,
Coucher College,
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Dr. Longley:

Please consider the enclosure the roughest kind of a draft, make such changes as you wish. I would have had it prepared double space for your convenience but want to see how much space it would cover complete.

Possibly the last paragraph should be dropped out entirely. It is only prompted by the attitude I feel will greet my desire to be absent from the Museum for a period longer than the one already vouchsafed me. Even so this paragraph is a little superfluous, don't you think?

I have enclosed copies of the other two letters as promised.

Sincerely,

*to continue the research
I initiated last year*

January 31, 1925.

Dr. Stejneger,

*Dr. Longley is very anxious to have me come to
Tortugas again this year, not only*

I have been ~~strongly and repeatedly~~ urged to come to Tortugas again this year, if only for the month of June, even though I have tried to shunt the matter over until after the expiration of my incumbency of the Purdy Bacon Scholarship.

~~My tenure of the~~ Scholarship does not begin until July first; it is of course, sometime during that month that I plan leave on the first field trip to South America. ~~Dr. Metcalf~~ Dr. Metcalf expects to go to Rio the latter part of the same month, I should for obvious reasons, like very much to travel along with him on that first leg of my journey.

This would render it possible for me to go to Tortugas for the month of June, if permitted by the Museum authorities. I am confident that I can leave my Museum responsibilities in such shape that this additional brief period would not interfere very much with the successful functioning of the Division, beyond such reports as might be a little delayed, pending my personal attention. As the larger reports go, a matter of six or seven months is not at all out of the ordinary; the annual report would be prepared in advance.

in his letter of January 28, Racker attended

If at all possible, I should like to meet with the wishes of Dr. Longley, and those expressed by Dr. Merriam. ~~Moreover~~ Moreover, there is much that I want to do at Tortugas that will not only be to my own credit, but that of the Institution as well.

All this anxiety, as it may seem to you, to engage in field work is prompted by my ambition to be a better carcinologist. I want to learn all I can about crustacea in the field, as well as in the laboratory; certainly it will enable me to render more real service to the Institution in the long run.

Dr. Merriam

red stamp
I have attached a copy of a letter on this subject which I recently sent Dr. Merriam, and his reply thereto.

Respectfully,

I have attached

a Dr. Merriam letter in reply

*I have attached hereto a recent
letter recently received from
Dr. Merriam.*

COPY.

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Office of the President.

January 28, 1925.

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
U. S. National Museum,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Schmitt:

I have read your letter of January 27, with much interest and am glad to learn of the opportunity which has come to you for study in South America under the Bacon Scholarship. I trust, however, that it may be possible for you to make arrangements to visit the Tortugas Laboratory again in company with Dr. Longley during the coming summer in the month of June before you leave for South America.

We are desirous of having this Laboratory used effectively in the interests of investigations which may be undertaken most advantageously at that location, and I am particularly interested in some of the ecological problems upon which Dr. Longley has already worked.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

S/d John C. Merriam.

January 28, 1925.

Dr. W. H. Longley,
Department of Zoology,
Goucher College,
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Dr. Longley:

I thank you for your letter. For fear of giving rise to some embarrassment to Dr. Merriam, I felt constrained to word my original draft as I did.

But your letter and embodied suggestion certainly cleared the atmosphere for me, and for that I thank you in particular. I can't begin to tell you how much I appreciate what you are doing for me.

With my best regards.

Wls:c

Sincerely,



COPY.

January 27, 1925.

Dr. J. C. Merriam,
President, Carnegie Institution,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Merriam:

I wish to thank you for the several separates of the brief account of my past summer's work at Tortugas.

I should like very much to continue the studies I was so generously permitted to initiate at that time and carry them along and over into their ecologic phases as developed by those observations. And furthermore, I am anxious to undertake certain investigations in collaboration with Dr. Longley on one or more of some of the rather fascinating problems confronting him in so far as they have a bearing on the ecology of the Crustacea.

It has long been my ambition to know and learn all I could about Crustacea, and this aim, of course, entails more than just a knowledge of their systematic aspects. I hope to be able to become as familiar with them in the field, their life habits and behavior, as with the morphologic and taxonomic phases in the laboratory.

With this in view, I first made application for the Purdy Bacon Travelling Scholarship as far back as February, 1923. Then the month after my application for a six weeks' stay at Tortugas was granted, I was awarded the Bacon Scholarship. This will necessitate my going to South America for about six months, beginning sometime this coming July, and for the same period, July-December, 1926.

Under the circumstances, naturally, I hesitate to make formal application for the privilege of working at the Laboratory during the month of June next, because absence from the Museum beyond that permitted in connection with the Purdy Bacon award, may be denied me. If however, I might be considered for a brief space as an applicant, I should appreciate it, and shall inform you at the earliest possible moment whether my leave for that month will be granted.

With my best regards to you.

Sincerely,

Wls:c

January 22, 1925.

Dr. Wm. H. Longley,
Department of Zoology,
Goucher College,
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Dr. Longley:

In view of the turn things have seemed to take, I have been at a loss just what to write you or Dr. Merriam. I hesitate to place him in what might be an embarrassing position for the possibility of going to Tortugas in addition to my South American "excursion" is a little more than uncertain. In fact I have had strong intimations that any desire to spend more time in the field than necessitated by my South American problem would be received with extreme disfavor.

Hence I have prepared a letter which I first submit to you for your approval, before transmitting it to Dr. Merriam. What I would like to write under the circumstances is quite another matter, and as I have said in my letter to him, I sincerely hope that the way things have gone will not militate against continuing work at Tortugas at some not distant date.

Even in my absence I feel that I can be of some help to you if you will only bottle, in 75% alcohol, your fish stomach contents. I can do considerable in determining the crustaceans at least, here at the Museum.

Sincerely,

Wls:c

GOUCHER COLLEGE
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

January 24, 1925

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
U.S. National Museum,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Dr. Schmitt:

I am glad to have the draft of your letter to President Merriam. My criticism is that although it states the facts, it gives him no chance to reply in such terms that Dr. Steijneger might be influenced to reconsider his decision in the matter of your leave for June.

If I might make a suggestion, I should propose that instead of the last two paragraphs something like the following should be inserted:

Under the circumstances I hesitate to make formal application for the privilege of working at the Laboratory during the month of June next, because absence from the Museum beyond that permitted in connection with the Purdy Bacon award may be denied me. If, however, I might be considered for a brief space as an applicant, I should appreciate it, and shall inform you at the earliest possible moment, whether my leave for that month will be granted.

You need have no fear whatever that such a statement will be misunderstood, or that President Merriam will be left in any embarrassing position. If you will send this in promptly, your answer will follow at once. It will then be in order to approach Dr. S., presenting Dr. Merriam's letter at the same time. Much may depend on getting this thing through.

Cordially yours,

W. L. Longley.

January 21, 1925.

My dear Dr. Longley,

In view of the turn things have seemed to take I have been at loss just what to write you or Dr. Merriam. I hesitate to place him in what might be an embarrassing situation, for there is more than just uncertainty about the possibility of going to Tortugas in addition to My South American "excursion". In fact I have had strong intimations that any desire to spend more time in the field than necessitated by my South American problem would be received with extreme disfavor.

Hence I have prepared a letter which I first submit to you for your approval, before transmitting it to Dr. Merriam. What I would like to write under the circumstances is quite another matter, and as I have said in my letter to him I sincerely hope that the way things have gone will not militate against continuing work at Tortugas at some future date.

Even in my absence I feel that I can be of some help to you if you will only bottle, in 75% alcohol, your fish stomach contents. I could do considerable in determining the crustacean remains at least here at the Museum.

GOUCHER COLLEGE
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

January 10, 1925

My dear Dr. Schmitt;

In continuation of our recent discussion I suggest that you write to President Merriam telling him of your appointment to the Smithsonian Travelling Fellowship. Make it clear, however, that this appointment leaves you free to return to Tortugas for the month of June, which you should like to spend there, if possible, in continuation of your research upon decapod crustacea, particularly ⁱⁿ some of ^{its} ~~the~~ ecological aspects.

Add that there is some uncertainty regarding your ability to secure leave from the Museum in addition to that involved in the South American trip, but state that pending decision upon that point by the museum authorities you wish to be considered an applicant for the use of the facilities of the station during the period specified.

Acknowledgement of receipt of your communication ~~may~~ perhaps contain some expression ~~of~~ interest in your work which upon being shown to Dr. S. may encourage him to let you go.

Cordially yours,

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt,
U.S. National Museum,
Washington, D.C.

W. St. Longley

My dear Mr. Hermann, I wish to thank you
for the several separates of the brief account
of my past summer work at Tortuga

// I should like very much to continue
the studies I was ^{so generously} permitted to initiate at that
time and carry them along and over into
their ecologic phases as developed by those
more or less preliminary observations. And
further more I am anxious to undertake
certain investigations in collaboration with
Mr. Sengler on one or more of some of the
rather fascinating problems confronting
him in so far as they have a bearing
on the ecology of the crustacea.

// It has long been my ambition to
~~know~~ learn all I could about crustacea,
and this aim of course entails more than
just ~~the~~ systematic aspects of the group.
I hope to be able to become as familiar
with these forms in the field, their life habits
and behavior, as with the morphologic and
systematic phases in the laboratory.

// With this in view I ^{first} made ~~some~~
applications for the Pandy Bacon ~~debar~~
Shavelling

Scholarship as back as February 1923.
Then the month after my application for
a six weeks stay at Fortugas granted,
I was awarded the scholarship. This
will necessitate my going to South America
for about six months beginning sometime July next.

// However much I want to be considered
for an opportunity to return to Fortugas
this summer, if only for the month of June,
I hesitate to make definite application as
I have received strong intimations that
any absence from the Museum during my
two years tenure of the Scholarship, beginning
July 1, would be most unfavorably looked
upon.

// I do hope that my present inability,
in spite of my desire, to continue
research work at Fortugas will not
militate against a future application
for another Fortugas assignment.
Sincerely

could do considerable in determining
the number remains at least
here at the museum.

~~I should very much~~
~~of the letter I wanted to~~
~~draft~~

My dear Mr. Sengley, ^{In view} ~~I have~~ of the turn things have seemed to take I have been at loss just what to write you or Mr. Merriam. ~~Should~~
Aheaff

I hesitate to place him in what might be an embarrassing situation, for there is more than ^{just} ~~some~~ uncertainty about the possibility of going to Iorlingos in addition to my South American "excursion". In fact I have had strong intimations that any desire to spend more time in the field than necessitated by ~~the~~ ^{my} South American problem would be ~~most~~ ~~unfavorably~~ received with extreme disfavor.

Hence I have prepared a letter
which I first submit to you for your
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What I would like
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Even in my absence I feel
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